



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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May 12, 2011

TO: Senator Frank Lasee
Room 104 South, State Capitol

FROM: Jon Dyck, Fiscal Analyst

SUBJECT: Community Sensitive Design Elements Related to Native American Themes on USH 41 Improvement Project in Brown and Winnebago Counties

At your request, this memorandum provides information on community sensitive design (CSD) elements that include Native American themes incorporated into the USH 41 improvement project in Brown and Winnebago counties.

In preparation for the construction of the USH 41 improvement project in Brown and Winnebago counties, as with many large construction projects, the Department met with various community groups on the design of project. As the result of these discussions, the Department agreed to incorporate various aesthetic elements into the project, which are generally identified under the heading of "community sensitive design." In total, CSD elements in the USH 41 project are estimated to cost \$7.6 million. Included in the CSD elements for the USH 41 project are several elements with themes related to Wisconsin Native American tribes, with a total cost of \$2.1 million.

The most significant Native American-themed CSD element would be incorporated into the new USH 41 bridge over Lake Butte Des Morts, in Winnebago County. The bridge would include a pedestrian walkway alongside the traffic lanes, with displays representing the 11 Native American tribes of Wisconsin. The bridge would also incorporate elements related to the history of fishing and logging in the area, although the Department indicates most of the additional cost of the CSD elements is related to the Native American-themed elements. The total construction cost of this project is estimated at \$1,287,000. The Department expects the project to be let for bidding and constructed in 2013. Consequently, none of this amount has been spent or obligated. For the design of these elements, the Department contracted with an architectural firm to incorporate the CSD elements into the project, at a cost of \$36,500.

In Brown County, the Department entered into an agreement with the Oneida Tribe in 2010 to incorporate Native American-themed elements at five locations, primarily pictorial representations at interchange retaining walls and bridges. The following table lists the locations, and the estimated cost of CSD elements at each location.

<u>CSD Location</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Larsen Road Interchange	\$313,500
Mason Street Interchange	243,200
Pamperin Park/STH 29	124,600
STH 172 Interchange	62,400
Duck Creek Crossing	<u>31,600</u>
Total	\$775,300

In some cases, the cost includes general CSD treatments that are not necessarily related to Native American themes. Of these projects, the first two (Larsen Road and Mason Street) are in the advanced stage of development, with lets scheduled for June, 2011. The other three locations would be let at a later time, likely in 2013. The artwork incorporated into these locations was produced by artists of the Oneida Nation, although the Department did not pay the artists for this work.

Although not related to the USH 41 project, the Department also entered into an agreement in 2010 with the Oneida Tribe to incorporate Oneida themes on a bridge rehabilitation project involving the STH 54 crossing over Duck Creek, and to incorporate landscape improvements at the intersections of STH 172 at STH 54 and the airport entrance. The total cost to the state of these CSD elements is \$333,000. The Tribe has agreed to contribute \$679,500 to the cost of these projects. This project is scheduled to be let in March, 2012.

If you have questions about any of this material or need further information, please contact me.

JD/le